Whitehall, October 18. 1697.

Last Night came in Two Mails from Holland.

Published by Authority.

Venice, October 4. N. S.

YEsterday arrived here a Vessel from *Smirna*, and brought the News of another Sea Engagement between the Venetians and the Turks, not far from *Andros*, which concluded very much to the advantage of the former; Several of the Enemies Ships are said to be sunk or taken; and 7 of their great Ships called Sultanes being much shattered, run for shelter into a small Port, where they were block'd up by the Venetians with hopes to destroy them; and the Captain-Bassa *Mezzomorto*, with the rest of the Turkish Fleet, was retired to *Negrepont*; On our side only one Man of War called the *St. Sebastian* was lost, which happened to take fire and blow up; This being related with so many particulars, seems to deserve a great deal of credit; But the Senate have yet received no Account of this Action. 'Tis said, that neither the Venetian nor Auxiliary Galleys were in this Battle, and that the latter are arrived at *Corfou* in their return home.

Cracow, Oct. 2. The Dyet continue their meeting here, and have declared, that they will stand by, and assist the King to the utmost of their Power; They have desired to see the Original Instrument of the *Pacta-Conventa*, signed by the King, but were answered, that the same was lodged among the Records at *Warsaw*. Yesterday the King disposed of two vacant Bishopricks, and several Abbies, as also of 4 Governments of Provinces, with some other Offices and Employments. So soon as the Dyet is ended the King intends to go to the Army near *Lemberg*, to receive from them an Oath of Fidelity, and after that will repair to *Warsaw*; In the mean time he has sent part of his Forces towards *Prussia*, to observe the Primate's Party; 'Tis said the Saxon Troops now in the Emperor's Service, as well as others from *Germany*, are ordered to march to the Frontiers of *Silesia*, that they may be at hand in case there should be need of them.

Dantzicke, Oct. 12. The Prince of *Conti* has been twice ashore here, and stayed several hours, but in the evening went a board again; He has been likewise several times at the Monastery of *Oliva*, not far from hence, where divers Gentlemen of *Poland* have attended him, but one of them, not thinking himself well enough received, went away in great discontent with 40 Horse; Which the Prince was much concerned at. By the last Letters from *Warsaw*, the Primate would stay at his House at *Lowitz* till the meeting of the Gentlemen, which he had appointed to be on the 10th Instant; upon the success whereof all the hopes of his Party seem now to depend. The Crown General has writ to the Primate, to let him know, that he was empowered by the King, to enter into Conference with him, in order to accommodate Matters; To which the Primate answered, it was now too late. This City continues to raise Men, intending to make up their Garison to 4000. 'Tis said, that *Du Bart*'s Squadron begins to be sickly: Some of the Great Men advise the Prince of *Conti* to go to *Lithuania*.

Vienna, Oct. 9. The last Letters from the Imperial Army in *Hungary* are dated the first of this month at *Sentou*; They were marching towards the *Danube* in order to pass that River at *Varismarton*; after which the Forces would separate, and go to Quarters; General *Rabutin* with the Troops under his command, had left the Army, and were marching back to *Transilvania*; and some Regiments were sent to *Upper-Hungary*; Prince *Eugene* had received Advice, that the Sultan, after the late Battle, stayed several days at *Belgrade* to get together a sufficient number of Forces to convoy him in his Journey, being informed, that the Rascians and Haydukes were abroad in considerable Bodies, and had posted themselves in his way, but this fear being removed, he went on towards *Adrianople*; and the Grand Vizier having made the necessary provision for the security of *Temiswaer*, would follow him in few days.

Francfort, Oct. 13. On the 9th the Cessation of Arms was published in the German Army; and the Troops of both sides are since that separated and gone to Quarters.

Paris, Oct. 18. The Ratifications of the Peace are daily expected, and preparations are making to proclaim it here, so soon as they arrive from *Holland*. The Marshal *Villeroy* is returned from *Flanders*. The Discourse continues of a great Reform to be made among the French Forces; and in the mean time the King to ease the People has resolved to suppress the Capitation. The Sieur *de Coetlogon* sailed from *Brest* the 9th Instant with 7 Men of War, which are going to *Toulon* to be laid up there. The Marquis *de Nesmond* arrived at *Brest* the same day with his Squadron from *Newfoundland*, without having made any advantage by his Voyage; He was before *St. John's* Harbour, but did not think fit to attempt any thing; The English have taken 9 French Merchantmen on the Banks of *Newfoundland*. The Duke of *Burgundy* continues indisposed. 'Tis said here, that the Prince of *Conti* has a strong Party in *Lithuania*.

Brussels, Oct. 20. We are every day expecting the return of the Courier with the Spanish Ratification from *Madrid*; In the mean time the French are preparing to evacuate the Places which they are to give up by the Treaty. All the English Forces that were in the Camp of *Cockelberg* are marched to *Flanders*. The French Troops lie cantoned in the Villages near the Frontiers, but are expecting Orders to march to *France*, where great part of them will be disbanded. The Places which the French are to give up by the Peace, are; *Giron*, *Roses*, *Beluer*, *Barcelona*, and all other Places in *Catalonia* taken since the Treaty of *Nimeguen*, to be restored in the Condition they now are in; *Luxemburg* with the Province and Principality of *Chimay*, as they are at present, as also *Charlemont*, *Mons*, and *Ath*, with their Dependencies, *Courtray*, and all other Places taken during this War; The Reunion since the Peace of *Nimeguen* to be annulled; *Dinant* to be restored to the Bishop of *Liege* in the Condition it was taken. Commissioners are to be appointed on both sides to regulate Matters about the Reunions, and if they cannot agree, the same are to be referred to the Decision of the States-General of the *United-Provinces*.

Leo, Oct. 21. His Majesty returned hither on the 17th from *Dieren*, accompanied by the Elector of *Bavaria* and Prince *Vaudemont*. The Count *de Bergyck*, Chief Intendant of the *Spanish Low-Countreys*, arrived here the same day to adjust Matters for the March of the *Brandenburg* Troops out of the *Netherlands*; Monsieur *Dankelman* and Monsieur *Dieft*, the two *Brandenburg* Ministers, are here on the same occasion. On the 20th the Count *de Firse*, who commands His Majesty's Forces on the *Rhine*, returned thither with His Majesties Directions for reforming those Troops. The contrary Winds having kept the Earl of *Portland* on this side the Water, his Lordship came hither this afternoon to wait on His Majesty, and intends to return to morrow to the *Hague*. The Elector of *Bavaria* goes hence to morrow morning. The Yachts and Men of War are sent for, to attend His Majesty in His return to *England*.

Hague, Oct. 23. N. S. On the 17th Instant His Majesty's Ratification of the Peace, under the Great Seal of *England*, was Exchanged with the French Ratification, in the Presence of the Mediator; The French Instrument was sent to His Majesty at *Leo*; and the English was dispatched by an Express to *Versailles*; in order to the Proclaiming of the Peace on both sides; His Majesty's Ambassadors have agreed with those of *France*, that the Term for ceasing Hostilities at Sea shall commence from the Day of Signing the Treaty, to wit, the Tenth of *September*, Old Stile. The French Ambassadors expect general Passeports from their Court, for such English Ships, as may have occasion of them for long Voyages; and with those His Majesty's Ambassadors will Exchange English Passeports for a like number of French Ships. All Matters are now Adjusted between the Imperial and French Ambassadors, except that Point only which concerns the Pretention the Dutchess of *Orleans* has to part of the Succession of the Elector *Palatin*, *Charles Lewis* her Father, which will, 'tis believed, be likewise settled in a day or two. The Earl of *Manchester* arrived here on Wednesday last, on his Embassy to *Venice*. The Weather has been very Tempestuous, and we hear of several Ships lost on this Coast. The Peace was Proclaimed here yesterday with the usual Solemnity. Fireworks and other Demonstrations of Joy are preparing against His Majesty's arrival here.

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